

Message Text

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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 179502 TOSEC 080170

NODIS

CHEROKEE

FOL SENT ACTION TO SECSTATE JUL 30, 1975 FROM CAIRO

QUOTE S E C R E T CAIRO 7448

NODIS/CHEROKEE

DEPT PASS SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PFOR EG US IS

SUBJECT: NEGOTIATIONS

REF: SECTO 046

1. APPRECIATE HAVING CLARIFICATION CONTAINED PARA ONE
REFTEL. ASSUME THE REFERENCE TO "SIX ISRAELI POSTS" IS TO THE
SIX US MILITARY POSTS THAT THE ISRAELIS WANT. (THE SLIP MAY
BE FREUDIAN, BUT IT IS EXACTLY THE WAY THE EGYPTIANS SEE
THOSE POSTS.) I HAD INDEED GAINED THE IMPRESSION THEY
WERE A SINE QUA NON FOR THE ISRAELIS, ALTHOUGH YOU INDICATED
THEIR NUMBER MIGHT BE REDUCED. I WILL SOFTEN THAT ELEMENT
OF THE TALKING POINTS AND WILL ALSO, AS WE DISCUSSED, TRY TO
GET A READING ON SADAT'S PERTINENT FALLBACK POSITION IF HE

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HAS ONE.

2. I AM GLAD WE HAVE WARNED THE ISRAELIS ABOUT THE LOOSE TALK THAT IS COMING OUT OF JERUSALEM THESE DAYS, BUT THUS FAR OUR WARNING SHOWS LITTLE SIGN OF DOING MUCH GOOD. FOR THE PAST TWO DAYS THE EGYPTIAN PRESS HAS CARRIED VARIOUS BELLICOSE REPORTS OUT OF JERUSALEM. WHILE RABIN'S RECENT STATEMENT ABOUT TURNING DOWN THE EGYPTIAN COUNTER-PROPOSAL BUT WANTING NEGOTIATIONS TO CONTINUE WAS BALANCED, PERES' PARALLEL COMMENT THAT THE ISRAELIS HAVE GIVEN THEIR "FINAL" OFFER WAS UNHELPFUL. TODAY THERE IS AN ARTICLE OUT OF JERUSALEM STATING YOU MAY HAVE TO SHUTTLE SIMPLY TO SAVE THE TALKS RATHER THAN COMING WITH ANY EXPECTATION OF ACHIEVING AN AGREEMENT. THIS KIND OF TALK GIVES THE IMPRESSION LOCALLY THAT THE ISRAELIS ARE SEEKING TO IMPOSE A DIKTAT OR ABORT THE NEGOTIATIONS AND GETS EGYPTIANS BACKS UP. THERE ARE OTHER COMMENTS ABOUT OUR SIDING WITH ISRAELIS, WHICH ARE HARDLY CONDUCIVE TO MAINTAINING OUR ROLE AS AN IMPARTIAL BROKER.

3. SOME OF THIS IS A NATURAL REACTION TO THE HARE-BRAINED OAU RESOLUTION ON THE EXPULSION OF ISRAEL FROM UN, BUT I WOULD HOPE THE ISRAELIS ARE NOT IGNORING SADAT'S PUBLIC COMMENT AT KHARTOUM STATING THAT HE DOES NOT RPT NOT FAVOR THE EXPULSION OF ISRAEL, SINCE IT WOULD IN EFFECT ABSOLVE HER OF HER UN COMMITMENTS. AS THE PARTY MOST AGGRIEVED BY THE CONTINUED ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF ARAB TERRITORY, IT TOOK A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF COURAGE TO STATE THIS, ESPECIALLY ON THE EVE OF THE OAU SUMMIT WITH ITS INEVITABLE HEADY "WAR DANCE" ATMOSPHERICS. I NOTE QADHAafi IS ALREADY PILLORING SADAT IN THE LIBYAN PRESS FOR THAT STATEMENT (TRIPOLI 844).

4. THUS FAR THE EGYPTIANS HAVE DONE REASONABLY WELL IN NOT BEING PROVOKED BY SUCH ISRAELI PRESS COMMENTS, BUT THERE IS A LIMIT TO THEIR RESTRAINT. I WILL STRESS TO THE EGYPTIANS THAT THEY SHOULD KEEP THEIR COOL AND AVOID OVERREACTING TO ISRAELI LOOSE TALK. HOWEVER, IF OUR WARNINGS TO THE ISRAELIS HAVE NO EFFECT, WE MUST EXPECT THE EGYPTIANS TO RESPOND IN KIND.

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5. ALTHOUGH FAHMY HAD TOLD ME SADAT WOULD PROBABLY NOT RETURN UNTIL AUGUST 1, MFA OFFICIAL TOLD ME THIS MORNING LATEST WORD IS PRESIDENTIAL PARTY WILL NOT COME BACK TODAY. SADAT, FAHMY AND THE REST ARE GOING DIRECTLY TO ALEXANDRIA. I HAVE A TENTATIVE APPOINTMENT WITH FAHMY IN ALEXANDRIA AT 1100 LOCAL TOMORROW (THURSDAY). THIS SHOULD ENABLE ME TO TALK PRIVATELY WITH HIM AND THEN ASK HIM TO ARRANGE A MEETING WITH SADAT LATER

SAME DAY OR FRIDAY. SINCE I HAVE NO SECURE COMMUNICATIONS
OUT OF ALEXANDRIA, I WILL BE OUT OF TOUCH FROM 0800 THURSDAY
UNTIL MY RETURN TO CAIRO.

6. I HAVE RESERVATIONS ON YUGOLSAV AIRLINES
JU 441 FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, ETA BELGRADE 1100. GETTING
BACK FOLLOWING DAY IS MORE DIFFICULT AND MUST STILL BE
WORKED OUT.
EILTS UNQUOTE INGERSOLL

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